

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for extracting volatile constituents, comprising:

5 a sample vessel for containing a sample of a solid containing volatile constituents, a gas feeding device for filling the sample vessel with inert gas, a thermostatic chamber for containing said sample vessel and keeping said sample contained in said sample vessel at a predetermined temperature, and a canister capable of being depressurized in advance and selectively connected to said sample vessel for collecting constituents evaporating from said sample contained in said sample vessel.

2. The apparatus for extracting volatile constituents according to claim 1, wherein said gas feeding device is designed to replace atmospheric air in said sample vessel with said inert gas, and said canister is designed to be depressurized to about 1×10^2 Pa in advance and selectively connected to said sample vessel to collect constituents evaporating from said sample by sucking said constituents with negative pressure.

3. A method of extracting volatile constituents, comprising the steps of filling a sample vessel containing a sample of a solid containing volatile constituents with inert gas and keeping said sample at a predetermined temperature, and thereafter connecting a canister depressurized in advance to said sample vessel to thereby collect constituents evaporating from said sample.

4. The method of extracting volatile constituents according to claim 3, wherein He or N₂ is used as said inert gas.

5. The method of extracting volatile constituents according to claim 3, wherein the temperature at which said sample is kept is predetermined to be a temperature which does not allow the

volatile constituents contained in said sample to be thermally decomposed and produce unexpected secondary products.